



PREVENTION WORKS IN MAINE

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH

A newsletter for health educators working with school aged youth

VOL #2, MAR 2012

THE COLLEAGUE CORNER

Positive Sexual Health

Today, the Maine Department of Education is focused on moving to a more learner-centered system with a strong emphasis on technology. What I find striking is that educators of comprehensive sexuality education have been doing this real and relevant learning since 1997. Maine youth risk behavior data supports the impact evidence-based HIV prevention curricula has had on behavior. Fewer students are sexually active and those who are use protection.

There is still more progress to be made because our teen STD and unplanned pregnancy rates are still too high. Although comprehensive sexuality education emphasizes skill building, knowledge, and attitudes, there are a number of other factors involved and

sexual behaviors and outcomes are heavily influenced by: 1. Poverty and discrimination, 2. Gender inequities and gender role expectations, and 3. Assumption that everyone is or should be heterosexual. When young people are valued by their communities, have hope for the future, and are confident their actions make a difference, they are better equipped to make positive choices about sexual health.

Thank you all for your dedication, and be aware that your hard work has not gone unnoticed!

Sincerely,

Jean Zimmerman, Program Coordinator

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Get connected

If you have ever felt like you are all alone in the world of "sexual health," you are not! Join your colleagues from across the state on April 5 for the one and only [7th Annual Comprehensive Sexuality Education Conference](#) featuring national speakers, meaningful workshops, networking opportunities, resources and more!

We realize you don't often have the chance to talk about this sensitive topic with educators in your school, so don't miss this chance to connect with other health educators to discuss sexuality education.

This year's theme is, "Crossroads of Sexuality and Technology: Sexuality in the 21st Century." Hope you can join us!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Apr 5: [Comprehensive Sexuality Education Conference](#), Augusta, Me (register today and save your slot!)

May 9-10, 2012: [Reducing the Risk/Making Safer Choices](#) curriculum training (7/8th grades), Augusta, Me

May 23, 2012: [Booster](#) session (7/8th grades), Augusta, Me

Click [here](#) for complete list.



National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

March 10

[National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness](#)

[Day](#) is a nationwide observance coordinated by the Office on Women's Health (OWH), within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its goal is to encourage people to take action in the fight against HIV/AIDS and raise awareness of its impact on women and girls.

[Awareness Day Fact Sheet](#), [Posters, banners, buttons, etc](#)
[Event planning guides and templates](#)



There is a new sexuality resource center for parents at www.srcp.org. This website has three main sections, one for parents of children with typical development, one for parents of children with developmental disabilities, and one for parents of children with physical disabilities.

Recently released...*[The Target Speaks: What Young Adults think about Unplanned Pregnancy](#)* is the latest in a series of national surveys dating back to 2001 commissioned and released by [The National Campaign](#).



NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN
AIDS PREVENTION CENTER

[NATIONAL NATIVE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY](#), MARCH 20

The National Native American AIDS Prevention Center (NNAAPC) helps organizations that serve Native communities to plan, develop and manage HIV/AIDS prevention, intervention, care and treatment programs. Their mission is to address the impact of HIV/AIDS on American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians through culturally appropriate advocacy, research, education, and policy development in support of healthy Indigenous people.

[Posters, cards, banners, etc](#), [Awareness Day Fact Sheet](#)
[Activity Sheet](#)

CONTACT INFO

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QUICK LINKS

[Family Planning Association of Maine](#)
[HIV/AIDS Info Resource](#)
[HIV, STD, and Viral Hepatitis Program, MCDC](#)
[Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey](#)
[Teen and Young Adult Health Program, MCDC](#)